SOUTHAMPTON UFO GROUP NEWSLETTER NO 73

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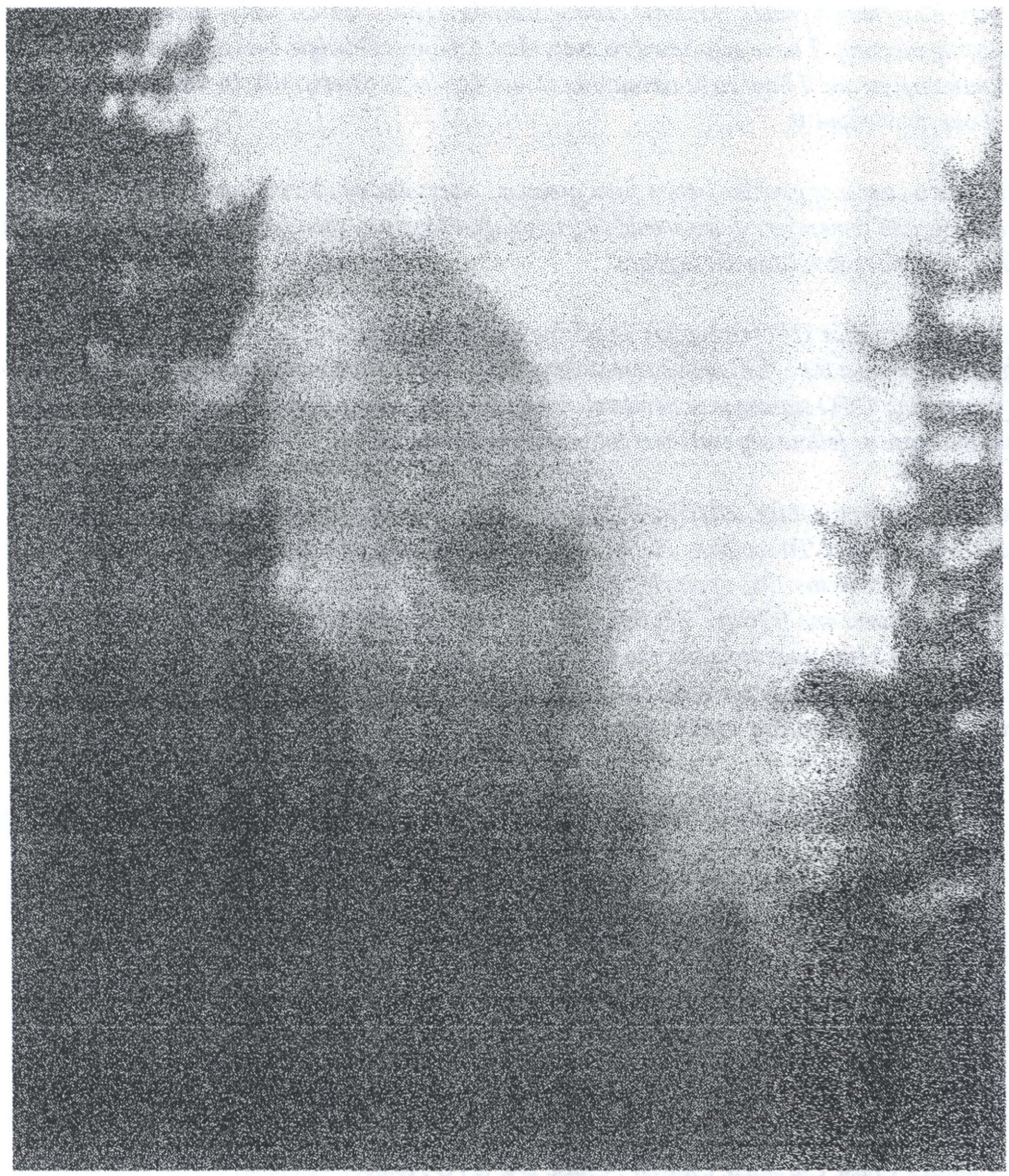

NEWSLETTER NO. 73 NOVEMBER 1996.

EDITORIAL.

Well folks another 2 months have passed and I must apologise for not getting last months newsletter out on time, but I have recently been laid up with a trapped nerve in my back that left me somewhat immobile for a week or two. Things appear to be all right now and I am hoping that the December edition will be with you just into the new year. Saying that, may I wish all group members and subscribers a good Christmas and a happy new year. What will 1997 hold for Ufology I wonder. I just hope that we start working together as one big family and pool our resources. I feel this will not happen, but we can all wish.

This past month has seen a couple of reports coming into the editors address and I showed these at the latest group meeting. I have also heard recently that a Flying Triangle was sighted near Eastleigh, Southampton and I hope to be contacting Omar Fowler in Derbyshire in the near future to find out more about it.

This month sees a couple of articles/letters from group members and as ever, I hope that you enjoy their content and remember, if you would like to put pen to paper, then your editor is always willing to publish it within these pages.

I have recently heard that UFO researcher Malcolm Robinson has become 'active' again (Sounds like an MI5 spy a bit .. Ed) and is researching UFO reports in Scotland and is working on his book concerning UFO sightings in Scotland. Welcome back into the fold Malcolm, and lets hope he stays amongst us fellow sky watchers for many years to come.

This month has also seen a large selection of Tv programs not only just on Cable television, but also regional television (See Tv reviews). I had great trouble keeping up with the Tv programs and I missed one or two items. One appearing on ITV children's television around 4.45pm which looked at alien abductions and featured Ros Reynolds abductee, and the other item was on BBC2 education program at 11am that looked at the lump of Martian rock recently found in the Antarctic and also featured abductee Elsie Oakensen. Did anyone out there manage to record either item ? If you did, the editor would like to hear from you.

WHAT THE PRESS HAD TO SAY IN JUNE 1995.

REGIONAL ARTICLES.

9.6.95 : Doncaster Courier : Boffins baffled by 'Fire Ball' in Sky Sightings.
14.6.95 : Crewe Evening Chronicle (No Title).
14.6.95 : Northumberland Herald & Post : Strange... But True !
14.6.95 : Thurrock Recorder : Lights in the Sky ! But They Weren't Blue.
16.6.95 : Rossendale Free Press : Tantrum did not Help UFO Cause.
16.6.95 : Cannock Chase Chronicle (Staffs) : Chase is a UFO Hotspot - Couple.

22.6.95 : Gloucester Citizen : 'Aliens Molested Me' Claims Businessman.
22.6.95 : Cornishman (Penzance) : UFO Spotting Groups.
22.6.95 : Ipswich Evening Star : Do Drop in.
23.6.95 : Western Daily Press (Bristol) : Close Encounters of the Wrong Kind.
23.6.95 : Cannock Chase Chronicle (Staffs) : A Fruitful Response to Sightings.
26.6.95 : Gloucester Echo (Cheltenham) : Psychics Probe Close Encounters of Sexual Kind.
27.6.95 : Wolverhampton Express & Star : Signal Failure for Alien Research.
30.6.95 : Burton Mail (Staffs) : What's Special About Us ?
30.6.95 : Gloucester Citizen : Close Encounters of the Third Kind !
30.6.95 : Colchester Yellow Advertiser : UFO Alert.
30.6.95 : Diss Express : UFO Group Meeting.

NATIONAL ARTICLES.

3.6.95 : The Independent : UFO Prof Could Find Himself Alienated.
22.6.95 : Daily Express : No Title.

NEWSPAPER UNKNOWN.

1.6.95 : No Title.
2.6.95 : The Star : UFO Over Commons.
3.6.95 : Evening News : No Title.
9.6.95 : Evening Post : No Title.
24.6.95 : Mystery Lights in the Sky.

MAGAZINE ARTICLES.

6.95 : Cable Guide : X Marks the High Spot of David's (David Duchovny) Career.
6.95 : Focus : No Title.
6.95 : Options : The Sex Files.
21.6.95 : Eva : No Title.

LOCAL ARTICLES.

30.6.95 : Andover Advertiser : Editor's Asian Tv Role.

CROP CIRCLE ARTICLES :

10.6.95 : Southampton Evening Echo : Going Round in Circles (Letter).
24.6.95 : Southampton Evening Echo : Ever Increasing Crop Circles (Letter).

PRESS/TV/RADIO MATTERS OVER THE PAST MONTH .

PRESS.

10.96 : The Independent : Prisoners to be held at nuclear base.

The article mainly concerned itself with the government planning to hold prisoners at the former USAF base at Woodbridge in Suffolk.... Extract 'The base was at the centre of one of Britain's biggest UFO incidents in 1980 when a metallic, triangular craft was seen over the nearby Rendlesham Forest'.....

10.96 : The Independent Magazine :

The article concerns itself with American art galleries who are exhibiting alien art work by those of us who claim to of been abducted and had alien experiments carried out on them. An interesting article that looks at the more artistic elements of Ufology and how through art work people portray their experiences.

6.10.96 : Sunday Mirror : Real Life X Files.

This article looked at a number of items including Witches, Vampires, Monsters and UFO's. There is a colour photograph of Jenny Randles and Peter Hough who the Sunday Mirror parallel with Scully and Mulder. With regards to UFO's, there is a look at the Rendlesham Forest Incident in 1980, Abduction on Ilkley Moor in 1987 and The Stockbridge Bypass Mystery in 1987. An interesting article that looks at cases that have been in the public eye for a number of years now and maybe getting a little stale to read.

26.10.96 : Daily Mail : Mecca of Mystery Honoured.

For decades, the town has been a Mecca for fans of the unexplained.
From all over the world, thousands have travelled to Warminster in Wiltshire to keep vigils on surrounding hills for mysterious lights in the sky. Nearby are the prehistoric stone circles at Stonehenge and Avebury, and more recently crop circles have caused controversy.

Now the town is being declared the UFO capital of Britain, and a plaque is to be unveiled today in the town hall.

Warminster lies on the confluence of two so-called leylines, which some say is the reason for the strange goings-on. Others put them down to the proximity of Salisbury Plain, home of secret military work.

The award has been inspired by Twentieth Century Fox, which has combined with the West Country Tourist Board to arrange the ceremony presided over by Lord Bath. At the unveiling, the film giant will announce the release date for the video of the alien invasion film Independence Day. Ron Morrison Smith of the West Country Tourist Board said : "The area has a rich and fascinating history of mystic links. We want to attract as many visitors as we can, and for Warminster it seems as if that could mean from this world and beyond".

An explosion which lit up the skies over the Hebridean Island of Lewis on Saturday was still unexplained last night. Witnesses thought a plane had crashed, but after a fruitless air and sea search, space debris falling to earth was seen as the most likely cause.

29.10.96 : Southampton Evening Echo : The Favourite Spot for Planet-hopping Aliens.

Strange unexplained objects and blinding lights are becoming all too common sight in the skies above Salisbury.

For decades sky watchers have flooded police and television stations with reports of unusual sightings of undefinable phenomena but over the past 12 months these reports have increased and now local experts are demanding an investigation.

The prehistoric stone circles at Stonehenge are long-standing venues for UFO spotters and for years the army town of Warminster in Wiltshire, which today will be named the UFO capital of Britain, has recorded the details of these so-called UFOs as a means of monitoring the increasing paranormal activity.

But Ufologist Jason Dears, 34, of Salisbury says that naming the town Britain's capital of UFO's is not helping the problem, and what is needed is a government investigation as to why sightings are increasing in the area.

The Ministry of Defence would not comment if any investigations were under way.

TV.

21.10.96 : Sightings (Sky One) - Mexican UFO Update and American Built UFO's.

21.10.96 : Sightings (Sci-Fi Channel) - Saucers Are Real.
Mexican Update.

25.10.96 : Strange But True Encounters - Abductions.

28.10.96 : Sightings (Sky One) - Nellis AFB Footage 1994.
The Roswell Autopsy.

28.10.96 : Sightings (Sci-Fi Channel) - Mantell Re-examined.
Life on Mars.

30.10.96 : It's a Mystery (Children's Tv) - Do UFO's Really Exist ?

This feature looked at the subject of UFO's from a more children's angle and featured a BUFORA investigator who presented some very dubious photographs in my view. A good item of about 10 mins and a good introduction to the subject if you are a 7 - 12 year old.

31.10.96 : Sightings (Sky One) - Area 51 Poisoning.
The Shag Harbour Incident.

3.11.96 : Discovery Channel (4 Hr UFO Special) - UFO : Reason To Believe.
UFO : Great Balls of Fire.
UFO : Retrieval.
UFO : Dreamland.

This was a 4 hour epic of UFO information of which some I was not aware of and I even learnt a thing or two. The first part was a potted history of Ufology which lead you into the era of ball lightening, green fire balls etc that were seen over America. The Retrieval section looked at recovered Flying Saucers and of course Roswell. The final section that I enjoyed the most looked at Dreamland and Area 51. All in all a great 4hr epic (But in reality by the time you remove the breaks, the total running time is around 3hrs 15 Mins. If you can get a copy from someone who recorded it, then grab it and sit back and enjoy. The only bad point for me, was that Alan Godfrey's alleged abduction/UFO sighting was featured in 3 of the programs !

3.11.96 : Equinox - Earthlights. This program tried to explain UFO sightings away such as Kenneth Arnolds sighting. It was claimed that 2 years prior to his sightings, there had been minor earthquakes in the area and that these could of been the cause along with a kind of ball lighting and the release of energy from the movement of the earth's plates. Although I know little about the subject of Earthlights, I can imagine that 'Some' UFO sightings/reports could be put down to UFO sightings, but Kenneth Arnold's sightings... Well I will ponder on that one. (60 Mins).

5.11.96 : Discovery Channel - Are We Alone - Life on Mars.

7.11.96 : Sightings (Sky One) - UFO Sighting in Shiknona, Israel.
Area 51 Update - Buying More Land.
11.11.96 : Sightings (Sci-Fi Channel) - Silent Vulcans.
Conversation with Nick Pope.
UFO Artwork in Manhatten (USA).
Roswell Metal Fragment.

11.11.96 : Horizon : Aliens from Mars - Follow-up on the recovery of the piece of rock from Mars that allegedly contains life from Mars..... (50 Mins).

13.11.96 : The UFO Incident - Betty and Barney Hill Abduction....(Repeated Yet Again !!!).

14.11.96 : Sightings (Sky One) - The Mars Complex (Avebury/Mars Structures (David Perry)).
John Mack fighting to survive.
Arch Cape (Oregon) - Sand circles.
1976 Iranian UFO Update.

UFO HOTLINE.

Charges : 36p STANDARD Rate 48p PEAK Rate.

BUFORA WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE : 0891 121 886.

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION DETAILS.

The Newsletter consists of no less that 5 double-sided A4 pages and press items that may be of interest to you the reader.

THE NEWSLETTER COSTS £5 PER YEAR INCLUDING POSTAGE AND IS

********** MONTHLY **********.

MAGAZINE REVIEWS - MR ERNIE SEARS.

Another stack of magazines from Steve for this month, some new to yours truly, hopefully to you readers too ! Here goes :

SIGHTINGS : Another edition of this ultra glossy one, this has a free booklet inside, compiled by much respected author Jenny Randles and crammed with photos and articles on known and not so known UFO incidents. Well worth adding to your collection, and seemingly, Jenny's outlook takes in the ET section a bit more currently, although comments to her still take YEARS, if EVER, to get a reply to ! is she hoarding all those stamps ? The Sightings magazine itself lists articles on Chris Grimes abduction, proof of crop circles at last (?), Bonnybridge, the conspiracy theory rears it's head again, more on that Roswell autopsy camera work, etc, etc.. and don't forget that Bristol New Trinity Centre 'all dayer' on December 15th, when the Encounter experience hosts Colin Andrews, Nick Pope, Jenny Randles, Peter Hough, and 'ole Dennis Plunkett of the original Flying Saucer Bureau, I used to belong to that in the fifties ! All details on the hotline 0117 929 9009. Magazine from Rapide Publishing, 14a Union Street, Newton Abbot, Devon. TQ12 2JS. £25 for 12 issues, £2.95 for one.

THE UNOPENED FILES Is a special edition glossy from the publishers of UFO MAGAZINE and comes out well with its claim to access a number of well kept secrets. Did America REALLY put a man on the moon ? Forces of Darkness, those 'stealth' aircraft and America's 'Black Budget'. Nick Redfern's discoveries of what officialdom classifies those RPV's, radar returns, some of which are ignored by the authorities 'if they have no knowledge' ! That Todmorden (Yorkshire) 'Adamski !' tragedy and it's possible Alan Godfrey UFO encounter connections. 'Near Misses' article, more startling photos of UFO's world-wide, et, etc... another good buy at good newsagents for £2.95 or UFO Magazine, 1st Floor, 66 Boroughgate, Otley, Near Leeds, LS21 1AE... next 'Unopened Files' on March 27th 1997.

SKYSEARCH Summer issue of this Sussex based research organisation has a good article on the 'Black Triangles', another on 'The Alien Reality' and how to communicate ! Writer Petrene Soames claims communication with a 'captive' Alien being in the USA, for 'Some Years !' Thought provoking indeed. Ley lines, crop circles, local sightings, huge section of 'UFO Merchandise'.. you name it, you can buy it ! Otherwise a good mag ! Well printed. £2.30 inc postage from Skysearch, PO Box 2507, Saltdean, Brighton, BN2 8ME. Tel : 01273 300805.

UFO MAGAZINE Celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the year of Roswell and UFO's (1947 - 1997) with a super free huge poster insert. The mag itself includes another claim, Michael Wolf, this time, of his work at Area 51. An 'amateur Astronomer' tells us why he doesn't believe in UFO's ! (Groan !) and Editor Graham Birdsall takes him, rightly, to task ! Another example of how 'sceptics' never seem to study the material ! that Kent 'near miss' again. Hungarian 'landing' photos. The 1996 British UFO 'wave' in detail. Hampshire 'Triangle' video. Good letters page. How to film that UFO. £1.95 from good newsagents or see unopen files above.

XPOSE ... Guess what 'inspired' this glossy, what I used to call a 'fanzine' in my fanatical days of movie going ! You wanna know about Mulder and Scully, or 'Will I ever marry MY cousin?', and sister magazines like 'Shivers' (Mulder and Scully again !) the latest UFO and such films from the USA... maybe I'm too old for such, suit the teenagers ! £2.50 from shops, published by Visual Imagination.. Well, it WOULD be ! So long as it doesn't trivialise the whole subject.

UFO REALITY.. Jon King Glastonbury glossy !.. Facts on Lowflyte article really factual, this 'wedge shaped' craft isn't 'noiseless', triangles have been reported since the year dot, etc.. no doubt the frightened men of Governments are glad of it, though ! Another 'expose' of those underground bunkers and Project Noah's Ark... personally I think the current Mars projects aim at a Noah's Ark to 'save' the VIP's etc in any coming cataclysm... ever see 'When Worlds Collide ?' Still ... Steve Alexander's crop circle photos really impressive... good article by Colin Andrews too... Russell Warren excavates (ouch !) those old and odd Ray Palmer 'Hollow Earth' plots.. and the Mexico wave detailed. Bob Dean speaks out, again, and his words always sound as if he KNOWS the basic truths. Get the mag. In the shops, or from 11 Market Place, Glastonbury, Somerset, BA6 9HH. £2.50.

ENIGMA .. Small but nicely formed ! .. Loved the Independence Day film item, which had it as the same day the biggest power cut in the States, equal to 17 states ! Not to worry about those aggressive 'Aliens', either... the audiences reportedly CHEERED when the White House was demolished ! editor Paul Vigay's in depth UFO sighting at Overton, East Kennet impressive.. still, he DID spend the evening in The BARGE at Honey Street ! Don't tell the sceptics ! Paul also writes well on the crop circle phenomenon. I agree, the real 'answer' lies within us, so sharpen up there ! UFO's over Norfolk incident (See Sunday People cutting ?) details impressive with two radars, a tanker, a civilian aircraft, and police video footage, ASKED FOR BY RAF ! SNAFU again ! (Americanise slang for cockup !) Ongoing. Good magazine, 4 times a year, maybe more often soon. £8.00, From Paul Vigay, 104 Manners Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hampshire. PO4 OB6.

UFO MAGAZINE.. the Canadian one !.. I've sent up a request for Michael Lindemanns 'UFO's and the Global Situation' as advertised... $19.95 !.. big coverage of the Mars 'life' news... Canucks crop circles not a patch on ours !... don't they have a Doug and Dave ?... Area 51 again... Penthouse mags swops 'girlie' spread for Roswell 'Alien' ? photos !... sacrilege ! (If anyone has a copy of Penthouse could you send it to the editor... Oh, you can keep the Alien pictures... ED..) 'orrible pictures of those Chupacabras from Puerto Rico.. bring back the gyres !.. Carl Sagan's new book, 'The Demon Haunted World', gets a partly thumbs down review...' course it would, he's an ASTRONOMER !' 'The Excycles' by Mia Adams also sounds attractive, even sensational. says here it's a true story ! Contact UFO Magazine, PO Box 1053, Sunland, CA 91041, USA.

TRUTHSEEKERS REVIEW.. Another good mag from Matthew Williams, it's Newsdesk Update section very interesting !... Nick Redfern's 'discovered' document has been 'withdrawn' by the MOD ! Those 'Bristol' (Your not talking about Penthouse again are you Ernie... ED !!!) sightings (OOps Sorry... ED!!!) may have been new 'laser light show'... Gulf Breeze update on recent sightings ... must be CLEVER hoaxers to keep it all going still ! Bits on Nick Pope... 'least he makes the magazines again !... hints at those 'above' the MOD lad who make the judgements..natch ! Miracle he was 'allowed' to write and say what he did, and does ! REAL video of 'implant' removal seen by Matthew Williams ! 'NO ONE HAS THE ANSWERS' quoth the un named California surgeon. Spanish UFO sighting video.. plus several 'landings' reported. Photos interesting. Phil Schneider, allegedly self confessed 'underground base' engineer who claimed 'fire fight' twixt aliens and American intelligence and military in 1979 found murdered. Seven months after he lectured on the incident. They WOULDN'T, would they ? Excerpts from his lecture in this mag. Caves and caverns in the States. Bob Dean interviewed. An 'Undercover Alien' (Janice X) tells all.. an alleged hybrid... feasible from what I read elsewhere, but true ? In closing, Matthew's MOD communication of circa 1965 ('play down the subject1') damming evidence ? OK... Truthseekers Review is from 25 Upper Canning Street,

Tonpentre, Mid Glamorgan, South Wales, CF41 7HG. Tel : 01443 437853... and although 'non-profit making' (a TRUE ufologist) six editions cost £10.20 and three are £5.10.

PROMISES & DISAPPOINTMENTS I've left until last.. for obvious reasons ? Apparently 'issue three/four', with several self explanatory sub-titles, such as 'Turning Vigilante' and 'the Great Quest Cover-up !' An extraordinary production, taking to task, and PIECES, a number of prominent people and Quest in particular. By Kevin McClure, who throws constant doubts on such as Tony Dodd, Jenny Randles, Budd Hopkins, John Mack, David Jacobs and apparently anyone involved in abductions ! 'If actually true', Kevin writes, 'then we have to rethink everything we know 'BUT OF COURSE WE HAVE TO ! Why do you think those of us who believe we HAVE been abducted, long before the very thought of such, were, in some cases, terrified ? Not so bad when we are children, our 'learning zone' was still capable of taking on board 'aliens' ! Worse, when adults, 'education' saw to it that ... that we were the crown of creation, none higher ! Why do 'scientists' and 'astronomers' etc cast scorn upon Ufologists ? Kevin is derogatory about Ufologists, as the above 'experts' are, elsewhere in his magazine, calling them 'psychological basket-cases'. If, as I believe... if wrong please correct ! .. he has NEVER had what is known universally as a 'close encounter', let alone an actual abduction, Kevin has no right to criticise those of us who HAVE ! Believe me, any of those two incidents changes your WHOLE OUTLOOK on LIFE. INSTANTLY ! Eileen Garrett, the late and much tested and well respected 'medium', when asked how her work felt to her, said 'it changes your priorities'. You view the world from a different reality. I can assure you it DOES !

Kevin's last quote, by Tony Dodd, 'remember, competence is in the eye of the beholder' sums it all up, Kevin... the ONLY 'experts' are those who have SEEN ! Sorry about that Steve. and readers.... it is, I am afraid, my little 'soap box'. Oh ! No way would I FORGET the subscription to Kevin's mag, it's £7.50 a year for four issues, from 23 Strawberry Avenue, Harrogate, HG1 5EA. Well worth it if you are REALLY involved in the things Kevin slates, as you can get great joy in finding the many holes ! Although sympathy must enter it too.

BOOK REVIEW - ERNIE SEARS.

Filling up the half page left I thought it might be of some interest to mention a new book out by Derek Sheffield, entitled 'UFO. A DEADLY CONCEALMENT'. If you read my last reviews of mags, I mentioned this in passing, as the author has been a guest speaker at one of the UFO groups. With one of those weird coincidences that festoon the paranormal, ten minutes after I'd typed those words my doorbell rang and a parcel had arrived for me. Yes ! 'twas the very book, sent with the compliments of one of my village UFO acquaintances ! The one with the very slim figure and the 'almond' eyes ! No, I haven't figured her out yet !

The book is very interesting for the amount of sheer dogged determination the author has put into it, almost entirely aimed at those Belgian triangle sightings in 1989 - 1990, and the run around he got from the authorities, not, surprisingly, our own seemed to be the worst, including our Post Office, with even recorded delivery letters to various people (including ex President Jimmy Carter) going astray or being returned slit open with no apologies ! Mention of ex MOD UFO spokesman Nick Pope says 'his replies were a plethora of contradictions'... Derek meeting with abductee Maria Ward was also disappointing as she was 'into' the psychic side... nothing wrong with THAT, says yours truly ! Derek even badgered the UN and the European Parliament with his missives, to date no satisfactory reply although I'm in touch with him. The author DOES have the additional 'inspiration' of actually seeing a multi-witnessed 'triangle' in August 1962 near his Kentish home. Denials that our own radars and officials knew 'nothing' of

the Belgian events was not surprising ! When in doubt, or under threat of 'exposure', deny EVERYTHING ! The book is worth the £9.99 asked, and Publishers are Blandford Press.

BUFORA NEWSFILE.

The cost of subscription is £7.00 for 6 issues or £13.00 for 12 issues.
Contact :
Michael Hudson, Linden Trees, 70 High Street, Wingham, Kent, Ct3 1BJ.

Forthcoming Events and Lectures.

25.1.97 - 1st Lancashire UFO Conference - Shelbourne Hotel, Lord Street West, Southport.
11am. Speakers to include - Jenny Randles, Matthew Williams and Anthony James.
Details - P.O Box 73, Lancaster LA1 1GZ. Or call the hotline - 01995 600186.

26.10.97 - Contact International Conference - Exeter Hall, Kidlington.
Tel : 01869 320989.

SOUTHAMPTON'S FIRST INTERNET CAFE.

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Address : 75 Bedford Place, Southampton, Hampshire.

SIGHTING REPORT.

The following sighting was reported to me on the 31.10.96 that occured at 7.30pm on Monday 28th October 1996. The witness was driving on the M3 heading from Winchester towards Southampton. The weather was rather atrocious with heavy rain and very strong wind and not the ideal night to be out in. Through the witnesses windscreen, he saw 3 vertical lights in the dark, miserable sky. They were Red - Green - Red in colour and reminded the witness of a set of traffic lights hanging in the sky. They blinked, firstly the top one, then the green, then the bottom red light and they went through the sequence a number of times. The lights then appeared to 'Bank and move off at high speed towards Eastleigh and that is the last he saw of the lights.

There are a couple of things to this sighting that makes me feel that there is a somewhat more of a down to earth explanation. I have driven along this part of the motorway many a time (I work in Winchester for Hampshire Police), and I have often seen red, green, and white lights over the motorway, as planes fly over heading into Eastleigh airport. On one occasion I thought I had seen my first Flying Triangle, but as the lights banked, the dark shape of an airplane came into

view. As the airplanes cross over the motorway to line up with the landing strip at Eastleigh airport, I strongly feel that this may well of been an aircraft on approach to landing at the airport... An on going investigation.... Ed...

UFO LECTURE AT SALISBURY COLLEDGE 14.11.96.

Myself and group member Mr Ernie Sears were asked to do a presentation on behalf of the students union concerning the UFO phenomenon. We arrived in good time and were treated to sandwiches, cakes and coffee. The organiser was a bit apprehensive as to the turnout, as previous lectures/talks had small attendance's. But, as I say, even if only one person turned up, that is better than nothing and for me just talking about the subject and passing on my worldly knowledge to others is all that matters. I did a slide/video presentation (The facilities were very good with a video projector and excellent audio system). Mr Sears talked about his experiences involving the UFO phenomenon over the past 40 or so years. As time fast approached 7.30pm, the auditorium was rather empty (in fact only 2 people filled the auditorium !). By 7.45pm things looked up, there was now 10 people in auditorium ! Bearing this in mind though, the evening went rather quick and those 10 people appeared very interested and at least no one got up and walked out. Rather disappointing in numbers, but as the college is rather a long way from the town centre and not easily accessible by public transport, we were lucky to get 10 people.

THE 1996 OXFORD CONFERENCE - ERNIE SEARS.

A horribly wet and windy Sunday didn't make much difference to the lively and often humorous chit chat on the coach that our enterprising organiser Steve Gerrard had laid on as we nipped along to the splendid Conference Centre north of Oxford, stopping on route for coffee.

A great wealth of stalls displaying the usual magazines, books, cassettes, videos and the like, that enrich Ufology for the dedicated, ample seating, first class sound system, refreshments, and the always interesting chance to chat with fellow enthusiasts, and, more exciting, some of the leading names in the lecture circuits, greeted us as we arrived...

The introduction by Ray Hunt, a qualified pilot, with some 8,000 hours in various aircraft including the RAF, CAA and the British Gliding Association, led into his knowledgeable talk which involved air accidents, near misses etc, the Manchester 1995 'near miss' coming in for special attention. A man who knew his subject at firsthand.

The co-ordinator of the organising body, Contact International, Brian P.James, followed, and as an actual experiencer of unexplained events he was avidly listened to, particularly on anomalous objects that appeared on photographs.

All speakers were allocated 60 mins, and personally I could have heard more from Matthew Williams, who produces THE TRUTH SEEKERS REVIEW, a compelling read indeed. Matthew has been on BBC's 'Out of this World', for example, and is a really determined investigator into those covert underground bases, both here and in the USA. His research has produced some intriguing stuff from our own MOD, a 1965 official letter, filing number given to us, on the attitude then to UFO's, was an eye opener ! A guy we really NEED in our movement.

Nick Pope, probably very fed up with the flu he was struggling to recover from, let alone the 'Britains Fox Mulder' title the media has plonked on him, more or less repeated his standard theme, culled from his three years on the MOD UFO desk, and his book, 'Open Skies, Closed Minds'... which really sums it all up ! Considering the Official Secrets Act, etc, Nick has, I think, personally, got away with a lot of pungent material.. never mind the doubters who MAY or may NOT have a point or two ! His next book on the Abduction scenario might well open a certain door wider... we shall see ! 'Old hat' some of his lecture and book may be, to many, but looking around at the large younger element at the Conference I still feel Nick Pope is opening a mass of

young, enthusiastic, to hell with authority, minds, all to the good on such a serious matter. Since he asked to include some of my own experiences into his new book, I shall be watching with some interest where the lad is going next !

Roy Lake approached his subject, next, with his usual light touch, that hides a multitude of experiences, after a sighting some forty years ago... beats mine, Roy, by some four years ! Chairman of the highly respected LONDON UFO STUDIES GROUP, and featured on many radio and TV programmes, he is now co-working with psychologists and such on regressing abduction and other experiences, some of which participants came forward during his question time.. very interesting, since this is where the whole subject will stand or fall, I think.

Roy Dutton finished the lectures with his usual highly polished and very technical treatise, with illustrations, which left many of us mystified, and, by that time, somewhat yawn prone ! With all due respect to Roy, who oddly enough I re-took up an acquaintance with some weeks ago, after a break of some years, he is a master of his pattern involving the 'delivery' of space craft of some kind from larger vehicles into our atmosphere and the 'picking up' of same.. certainly he has proved to ME that my own collection of sightings etc of some years ago fitted his research. Roy retired fro the British Aerospace Future Projects Division in 1991. UFO groups information makes it possible for Roy Dutton to predict certain events. He retired from Stockport, I think, to Plymouth, some time ago. A lecturer who knows his stuff and would be best suited to some hi-tech boffins whose minds need to be opened to what is really going on 'up there' or 'down here !'.

With 'question time' aimed at the panel of all speakers, the whole day finished on a positive and lively note.. methinks many, if not all, went away as satisfied as I did, thinking, I trust, 'when is the next one' ! Good to see so many young seekers after the truth there... the X files may well be inspiring them but no matter... and the actual sightings reporter there, and the involvement with the 'paranormal', confirm what most of us 'more mature' researchers already know, that the subject is of awesome proportions, and that we must grasp it, encourage our so-called 'betters' that we KNOW the 'Truth is Out there', and we can handle it, traumatic as it may well be ! We owe it to future world citizens. Since our current lot have made a right old hash of this tiny ball we cling on to precariously !

That 'something' of momentous proportions is 'going on' seems to be a world-wide phenomenon among us Ufologists, psychists, etc... and the Oxford Conference would seem to confirm this. Your move next ! Huh ! Should that be 'their move' ?

SUFOPIA (PT I).

In an attempt to promote SUFOPIA, I will be writing articles for this magazine on a monthly basis. I am writing these in the hope they will be informative as well interesting as SUFOPIA aim to educate people on the subject of UFO's but in a way that will interest them, not just drone on about facts and figures.

I will start by giving you an example of what has been said by various people regarding UFO's. These aren't the usual witnesses to UFO's that people so often claim need psychiatric treatment if they really believe that they saw what they claim to have seen, but reports made by people who, if they do need this treatment are in a very strange position of power.

I will be including more of these every month because there are far too many to place into a single article.

In conclusion to a July 1947 FBI/Army Intelligence study report, the following was stated : 'This flying saucer situation is not all imaginary or seeing too much in some natural phenomenon. Something is really flying around'.

Of course, July 1947 is regarded by many to be one of the most important months in modern day Ufology, but this report had nothing whatsoever to do with Roswell (honest !). Talking of Roswell though, Major Jesse Marcell gave an interview regarding being the first at the scene of the crash site in 1947, the interview was made in 1979, he states :

'It was definitely not a weather balloon or tracking device, nor was it any sort of plane or missile. It was something I had never seen before. It certainly wasn't anything built by us'.

Dr Bruce Maccabee was a U.S. Navy physicist, in a paper he wrote the following : 'The Air Force knew by the middle of July 1947 that saucers were real and not man made, the technology represented by the (recovered) disc was so far beyond our own that it could not be understood immediately. Therefore it would be necessary to treat the disc as a military secret. This would mean containing all information about it within some small group'.

As you can see, if these people were in need of treatment, America has a lot to worry about !

I will deal more on this subject in the next issue.

READERS ARTICLE - MR BARRIE WRIGHT.

I recently read an article in a UFO special magazine about the Apollo Astronauts..... Which I presume most people read, in that it stated there are people who say the moon landing never happened.

I don't often write letters in to UFO related magazines, but being a teenager old enough to appreciate history in the making , I lived and breathed the moon landings, collecting all I could, and never missing a minute of aired news and 'live' coverage.

I was, then, rather incensed when I read the ludicrous explanations for some of the 'photos' written by people whom I presume didn't live through the events, and had done very little research and obviously no knowledge of lunar photography and lunar Module workings.

The first photo tried to say it wasn't possible for a thruster shadow to be cast on the moon, and that the photo was fake. Anyone knowing anything about a Lunar Module (I still have my small kit!) plus photos of inside and out, should know that just outside the two triangular windows slightly to the left and right, are two small thrusters. Then the camera was pointed out of the window, the thruster just stuck up in the way a bit. There is NO WAY they are big enough to reflect onto the moon!

The U.S. flag was, in fact, 'wired' as it was stated at the time, to make the photos look better for mans historic landing. It was NEVER said, or intended to suggest that there was a wind on the moon ! It wouldn't have 'hung' well, so it still had to have some sort of 'support'. I think this sort of nonsense is best left to papers like 'Weekly World News' and 'Daily Sport'. It is a shame that in this short space of time, history already is being tampered with. (Well, the 25 years flew by for me !).

How is the serious UFO investigator EVER going to solve things like ROSWELL, where the years are also creeping by, when there are articles like this going around ?

I could easily make up a story about the Alien Autopsy being test footage for an abandoned 50's or 60's sci fi film. has anyone noticed the likeness of the alien (Balok) at the end of every Star Trek episode ? On that the Alien also resembles a Talosian (from Star Treks MENAGERIE) ?? Both portrayed as bald, large headed, with long distorted features ?

On Sunday, November 17th at 7.00pm, 'The Family Channel' in the U.S.A. broadcast a made-for-cable 2hr film called.... APOLLO 11 - The Movie. It starred Jeffrey Nording, Xander Berkeley and Jim Metzler. I hope our own Family Channel will be showing it. I for one look forward to it very much !

Barrie Wright.....

U.F.O.S CROP CIRCLE FORMATIONS AND THE PARANORMAL.
(SUBTITLED - THE SECRETS RUN OUT, AS TIME RUNS OUT)

The cover of this video has the title U.F.O.s in bold red letters and crop formations in much smaller Letters, no doubt aiming for the more numerous UFO enthusiasts than the cerealogist among us, while the picture cover depicts an alien head with the magnificent Barbury Castle crop formation behind it along with a F.B.T (Flying Black Triangle) and Stonehenge. Its contents however are far less exciting. The three from Andover comprising of Colin Andrews, Busty Taylor and Reg Presley air the same old tales that can be found in books and videos these three have taken part in over the years. These three from Andover in Hants, the 'A' team I will call them, come out with stories such as the U.F.O incident at Alton Barnes in 1992, Busty's find in a crop circle of quote 'Interesting strange jelly substance' (Technical stuff this !) and Joyce Bowles and Ted Pratt's encounter at Chilcomb, near Cheesefoot Head in 1976 and Colins first experiences with crop circles etc etc. Reg points out that weather balloons in the days of the Roswell crash were made from the same material as condoms. I ponder on this pointless information for 10 seconds and move on. To hear the 'A' team go on you would think that the majority of crop formations were genuine, then again in you are selling anything to do with this subject, this approach is essential for maximum profit be it books, video or photographs. Busty even dared to say 'I admit quite a few are man made' in that sentence hoaxing which I believe accounts for the majority of the formations, was dealt with. The photo's shown, and there are not many, are with out doubt in my mind hoaxes. Surely by now more evidence would be more abundant even Busty teases us with comments such as one day he will reveal to us (on his future video of course) more secrets of what he has found over the years. SECRETS I ask you, why hide evidence ? we criticise the powers that be for their secrecy, yet here Busty admits he has evidence that only a few know about. Colin talks about formations that appeared at Headbourne Worthy in Hants during the 1920s, something Paul Fuller has made a study of at length, but it is Busty who seems to get in a muddle over where Von Dorkheim and S Alexander recorded their alleged U.F.O footage. The Von Dorkheim film was shot at Manton, Nr Marlborough, but according to Busty it was Alton Barnes which is several miles away. The last part of this video has the 'A' team sitting on a bench together raising all manner of deep and meaningful questions. The Santilli footage cropped up and Colin was guarded to say the least, a being of some sort he furtively said. While the three rattled on, Busty and Colin were squeezing and fondling a rubber ball that looked like the earth (what would have Freud said about this I wonder !).

I am sorry if I sound overly critical, but this video is rather pointless in my opinion, however, I am sure it will appeal more to the American market or the credulous among us on this side of the Atlantic. Out of 10 , 1 for the cover.

The Wheatear.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM THE
SOUTHAMPTON UFO
GROUP.